

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## ALUMINUM IN JUNE 2002

The reported domestic primary aluminum production in June was 225,223 metric tons (t). The average daily production rate was 7,507 t, 2% higher than that of the previous month and 5% above the rate in June 2001.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased slightly from 65.45 cents per pound in May to 65.88 cents per pound in June, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) fluctuated during the month of June. On June 4, the price range increased by a penny to 48 to 50 cents per pound; on June 19, the price range fell back to 47 to 49 cents per pound; and on June 28, the price decreased by another penny to 46 to 48 cents per pound, where it remained through the end of the month. According to Resource Recycling's Container Recycling Report, the average monthly transaction price for aluminum UBCs decreased from 50.5 cents per pound in May to 48.2 cents per pound in June.

### Update

On July 31, Alcoa Inc. announced a series of closures affecting U.S. aluminum smelter production and capacity. The 120,000-metric-ton-per-year (t/yr) aluminum smelter at Badin, NC, which had been operating at a 90,000-t/yr rate since September 2000, was expected to be idled by mid-August. The

121,000-t/yr Troutdale, OR, facility, which had been idled since June 2000, was to be closed permanently, and a total of 76,000 t/yr of capacity, which had been idled for several years at Alcoa's 320,000-t/yr Rockdale, TX, smelter, would also be permanently closed. The company reported that the idled assets at both Troutdale and Rockdale would be dismantled (Alcoa Inc., 2002).

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased from 65.88 cents per pound in June to 65.19 cents per pound in July. On July 3, the American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs increased by a half penny to 46.5 to 48.5 cents per pound. The buying price range then decreased several times during the latter half of the month. On July 17, the price range decreased to 47 to 48.5 cents per pound; on July 23, 46 to 47.5 cents per pound; on July 24, 45 to 46.5 cents per pound; and on July 29, 44 to 46 cents per pound, where it remained through the end of the month.

### Reference Cited

Alcoa Inc., 2002, Alcoa reduces capacity; continues to implement its long-term, low-cost production strategy: Pittsburgh, PA, Alcoa Inc. press release, July 31, 2 p.

TABLE 1  
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery 2/			Imports for consumption			Total new supply 3/	Total stocks, end of period 4/
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2001: p/	2,637	1,880	1,260	3,140	2,560	683	3,240	9,020	1,300
2001:									
June	215	156	105	261	179	55	235	710	1,470
July	214	152	109	262	201	55	257	733	1,450
August	212	166	110	276	198	57	254	742	1,420
September	206	159	106	265	252	56	308	779	1,390
October	214	172	112	284	220	58	278	777	1,360
November	208	152	106	258	248	57	305	771	1,310
December	205	133	94	227	227	44	271	703	1,300
January-June	1,378	948	621	1,570	1,220	356	1,570	4,520	1,470
2002:									
January	210	147	102	249	272	58	330	789	1,290 r/
February	197	141	93	234	205	52	257	688	1,270
March	220	153	99	252	233	62	285	758	1,320 r/
April	216	148	96	245	221	65	286	747	1,310
May	228	154 r/	98	252 r/	221	76	297	777	1,280
June	225	149	95	244	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-June	1,296	892	584	1,480	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised. NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

3/ Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

4/ Includes scrap; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

TABLE 2  
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
2001: p/	2,050	1,530	908	789	777	716	107	96	6	6	3,850	3,140
2001:												
June	169	127	72	62	69	63	10	8	1	1	319	261
July	163	121	83	72	68	62	6	5	1	1	319	262
August	172	128	81	71	73	68	10	9	(2/)	(2/)	337	276
September	170	128	78	68	66	61	9	7	1	1	324	265
October	186	139	80	70	69	63	12	11	1	1	348	284
November	171	127	74	64	61	56	10	9	1	1	317	258
December	163	120	62	54	50	46	8	7	(2/)	(2/)	284	227
January-June	1,020	771	449	390	390	360	51	46	3	3	1,920	1,570
2002:												
January	150	111	80	69	62	57	11	10	1	1	303	249
February	146	108	69	60	61	56	11	10	1	1	287	234
March	152	113	79	69	64	60	11	10	1	1	307	252
April	150	112	71	62 r/	63	58	13	12	1	1	298	245
May	152 r/	113 r/	73	63	68	63	13	12	1	1	307 r/	252 r/
June	150	112	65	56	69	64	12	11	1	1	297	244
January-June	900	670	437	379	387	359	71	65	4	4	1,800	1,480

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3  
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED  
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN JUNE 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	125,000	150,000	93,200	112,000
Integrated aluminum companies	65,300	65,300	56,200	56,200
Independent mill fabricators	57,500	69,000	53,300	63,900
Foundries	10,100	12,100	9,440	11,300
Other consumers	483	580	483	580
Total	259,000	297,000	213,000	244,000

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4  
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	June			January-June 2/		
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Solids	29,000 r/	74,600	74,300	29,300	460,000	458,000
Can stock clippings	2,900	19,700	19,400	3,250	110,000	110,000
Other clippings	5,850 r/	11,200	11,200	5,850	66,900	67,900
Borings and turnings	4,380 r/	20,000	20,000	4,400	117,000	117,000
Dross and skimmings	2,710	33,900	33,800	2,850	204,000	204,000
Total new scrap	44,800 r/	159,000	159,000	45,700	958,000	957,000
Old scrap:						
Used casting, sheet, clippings	10,600	32,700	32,800	10,600	196,000	196,000
Aluminum-copper radiators	1,630 r/	2,440	2,420	1,640	14,500	14,900
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	35,100 r/	56,100	55,000	36,200	349,000	345,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	4,420 r/	9,080	8,840	4,660	53,500	54,400
Total old scrap	51,800 r/	100,000	99,100	53,100	613,000	610,000
Sweated pig	165	956	971	150	5,950	5,970
Total all classes	96,800	261,000	259,000	98,900	1,580,000	1,570,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

3/ Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5  
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2002 1/ 2/

(Metric tons)

	June				January-June 3/	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	4,530 r/	1,890	1,860	4,560	10,800	10,800
380 and variations	5,370 r/	33,200	33,100	5,480	199,000	197,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,200	4,060	4,080	3,180	24,500	24,600
No. 319 and variations	9,860 r/	11,400	11,300	9,950	67,100	68,100
F-132 alloy and variations	1,930	1,990	1,950	1,980	12,500	12,400
Al-Zn alloys	630	59	59	630	352	438
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	91	168	168	91	1,010	1,010
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	--	191	191	--	1,150	1,150
Other 4/	4,300 r/	9,350	9,330	4,330	56,200	57,200
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	10,100	17,500	16,900	10,600	104,000	104,000
Total all alloys	40,000 r/	79,800	79,000	40,800	477,000	477,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	6,380	XX	XX	36,900	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	3,740	XX	XX	21,500	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	1,410	XX	XX	4,340	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot 5/	XX	68,200	XX	XX	414,000	XX

r/ Revised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

1/ Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

2/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

4/ Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

5/ No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN MAY 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	May	January-May	May	January-May	May	January-May	May	January-May
Argentina	3,100	33,100	72	129	184	383	3,350	33,700
Australia	8,750	49,900	9	25	--	--	8,760	49,900
Bahrain	551	6,600	1,470	5,220	--	--	2,020	11,800
Belgium	--	--	1,060	2,520	--	450	1,060	2,970
Brazil	4,360	12,100	44	397	5,810	7,110	10,200	19,600
Canada	134,000	672,000	41,700	184,000	25,600	119,000	201,000	976,000
France	31	270	526	2,280	280	2,320	837	4,880
Germany	94	907	4,090	22,400	605	3,350	4,790	26,700
Ghana	--	--	--	--	1,760	4,000	1,760	4,000
Hungary	--	--	972	3,210	--	--	972	3,210
Italy	--	--	236	1,030	--	--	236	1,030
Japan	18	142	646	4,020	12	83	676	4,250
Korea, Republic of	--	5	471	2,140	--	--	471	2,150
Mexico	351	2,050	1,510	7,190	4,070	23,700	5,930	32,900
Netherlands	38	185	163	1,240	267	1,300	468	2,730
Norway	215	1,980	29	56	--	--	244	2,040
Russia	35,400	230,000	10,200	22,700	793	9,620	46,400	262,000
South Africa	4,530	10,000	2,320	12,200	--	8	6,840	22,200
Spain	54	517	27	79	--	--	82	596
Sweden	2	2	246	1,350	--	44	248	1,400
Switzerland	92	250	230	857	61	100	383	1,210
Ukraine	--	--	--	20	--	--	--	20
United Arab Emirates	3,860	28,100	--	--	17	135	3,880	28,200
United Kingdom	17	180	511	3,750	816	2,490	1,340	6,420
Venezuela	25,900	87,200	2,340	8,180	1,440	3,800	29,600	99,200
Other	78	6,600	6,670	27,400	3,600	16,300	10,300	50,200
Total	221,000	1,140,000	75,500	313,000	45,300	194,000	342,000	1,650,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7  
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN MAY 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	May	January-May	May	January-May	May	January-May	May	January-May
Australia	19	38	110	551	1	176	130	765
Belgium	37	92	192	1,930	--	59	228	2,080
Brazil	21	93	1,080	15,100	16	16	1,120	15,200
Canada	7,810	36,800	40,600	187,000	19,400	95,500	67,800	319,000
China	--	22	2,400	14,600	18,700	75,300	21,100	89,900
Czech Republic	--	--	(2/)	4	--	--	(2/)	4
Dominican Republic	--	3	40	271	--	--	40	274
France	(2/)	61	277	1,790	--	6	277	1,860
Germany	268	1,070	236	1,190	19	144	523	2,400
Hong Kong	3	80	299	1,900	529	3,420	830	5,400
India	63	107	12	81	297	1,640	373	1,830
Israel	24	59	247	702	--	--	271	761
Italy	--	4	154	980	--	3	154	987
Japan	291	1,580	1,160	4,430	2,350	12,700	3,810	18,700
Korea, Republic of	10	236	665	4,160	2,320	21,700	2,990	26,100
Malaysia	23	23	40	196	69	443	131	662
Mexico	10,700	42,900	10,600	45,800	10,200	26,300	31,500	115,000
Netherlands	9	27	89	408	--	50	98	485
Russia	--	19	10	24	--	9	10	52
Saudi Arabia	--	(2/)	1,690	6,990	--	--	1,690	6,990
Singapore	18	33	106	1,540	5	97	129	1,670
Spain	(2/)	14	76	381	--	482	76	877
Sweden	--	--	58	263	--	5	58	268
Taiwan	77	82	690	2,870	2,510	9,560	3,280	12,500
Thailand	--	--	1,020	5,010	79	535	1,100	5,540
United Kingdom	44	224	656	3,460	33	425	733	4,110
Venezuela	(2/)	3	505	3,980	--	--	505	3,980
Other	26	161	3,780	13,300	343	1,890	4,150	15,400
Total	19,400	83,700	66,800	319,000	56,900	250,000	143,000	653,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.